



tuesday, march 26, 2013

the collegian

INDEPENDENT VOICE FOR KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY



VOL. 118 NO. 116

kstatecollegian.com



Tomorrow:
High: 50°F
Low: 32°F



Thursday:
High: 56°F
Low: 39°F

02

To pay or not to pay?
The Forum raises concerns over SGA's Union funding plans

03

Familiar foes
Baseball team takes on former rival Nebraska at 6:30 p.m.

04

Head to head
Weighing the pros and cons of the Union renovation proposal

City elections impact K-State students



Evert Nelson | Collegian

Manhattan residents listen to City Commission candidates discuss various issues from Fake Patty's Day to the RCPD budget at an open forum held in the Warham Opera House on Poyntz Ave. Monday night from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The elections for City Commissioner will conclude on April 2.

2013 City Commission candidates

John Ball	Debbie Nuss
Daniel Hogan	Usha Reddi
Rich Jankovich	Bob Strawn
Karen McCulloh	

Sean Frye
staff writer

The elections for three new Manhattan city commissioners will conclude on April 2. The seven candidates in the running, including Rich Jankovich, who is already on the commission and is running for re-election, all hope to have a say in how the city levies taxes and how that tax money is used. A public forum held in the Warham Opera

House on Monday night gave the candidates the opportunity to express their views and answer questions from Manhattan residents.

With K-State students representing nearly half of the total population of Manhattan, Student Governing Association president-elect Eli Schooley believes that it is important for students to go out and vote for the right candidates who will have K-State's best interests in mind.

"It's incredibly important for students here at K-State to go vote," Schooley said. "I think in past years the students haven't gotten out to vote, and that has come back to haunt us. Some people have been elected that don't have the university's best interests at heart."

There are many issues that involve both the university and the city as a whole. One of these is the celebration of Fake Patty's Day. Every year, the city and the university make conscious efforts to minimize the effects of alcohol overconsumption to ensure that the holiday is celebrated in a safe manner.

One of the candidates for city commission, Usha Reddi, believes that preemptive education about the effects of alcohol is necessary to improve the safety surrounding Fake Patty's Day.

"I'm worried about the assaults that might be taking place," Reddi said. "Assaults that might not be reported. People are drunk and things happen. Those are things that I'm very concerned about."

While Reddi raised concerns surrounding the annual holiday, she also emphasized that it is an important event for the city financially, and that she understands that many students use the celebration to release stress.

"I understand that our youth need a way to let go," Reddi said. "It's one of those war stories that people tell their kids."

Another issue that was raised at the forum was whether or not to cut the budget of the Riley County Police Department. In 2012, RCPD was allotted over \$12.2 million tax dollars.

One student on campus, Brandon Painter, junior in marketing and entrepreneurship, believes that the city should at least take a second look at its emphasis on how the police department is financed.

"I'm not saying cut the budget, but as any K-State student or anybody in the community knows, the police are always on point, even when there wasn't necessarily a reason for it," Painter said. "They're always pulling somebody over to hit that quota."

The subject of public transporta-

CITY | pg. 6

Union director explains features of renovation



photo rendering courtesy of Ayers Saint Gross architects

This photo rendering depicts the proposed expansion of the East side entrance of the K-State Student Union.

Darrington Clark
managing editor

For the past several months, students, teachers and faculty have been trying to reimagine the K-State Student Union. Now that the Your Union campaign has launched and the master plan for design has been discussed, the proposed new features of the Union have finally been cemented.

"We're going to renovate and redesign most of the entire building," said Bill Smriga, di-

rector of the Union. "It's significant in that each floor of the Union will be touched, though some will have more extensive renovation than others."

If the referendum to begin renovating the Union in 2014 passes next month, construction will begin on the Union in phases. The building will be kept open while work is done on isolated parts, one phase at

UNION | pg. 6

Committee proposes new smoking regulation

Sarah Burns
contributing writer

In a question on the recent SGA election ballot, voters were asked their opinion on a smoking ban covering the whole K-State campus. Over 90 percent of respondents said they would support a full ban.

While there are students who smoke on campus, many students completely disagree with the act.

"I do not think people should smoke on campus. It ruins the studious atmosphere," said Abbie Thomas, sophomore in kinesiology and nonsmoker. "Besides, smoking does not just affect one person, but can be detrimental to everyone around them, especially when looking at health. Secondhand smoking is a big deal."

The current smoking policy on campus does not allow smoking in buildings or within 30 feet of a building entrance. Over the past few years, multiple students have petitioned the Student Affairs Committee, a group that seeks to advance issues supported by K-State students, to discuss banning smoking on campus entirely.

"The job of the Student Affairs Committee is to have the knowledge to put into effect the ideas of the students, whether it be just to guide students or actually make a change," said Kyle Nuss, chairman of the committee and senior in architectural engineering.

The Student Affairs Committee is currently in the process of proposing a change to the smoking policy. In this proposal, smoking would not be allowed anywhere on campus except in certain designated areas.

"Creating an awareness of the cur-



Photo illustration by Parker Robb

A K-State student smokes a cigarette in the designated smoking area outside the Union Monday. Over 90 percent of students who voted in the recent SGA elections expressed support for a complete ban of on-campus smoking.

CIGS | pg. 6

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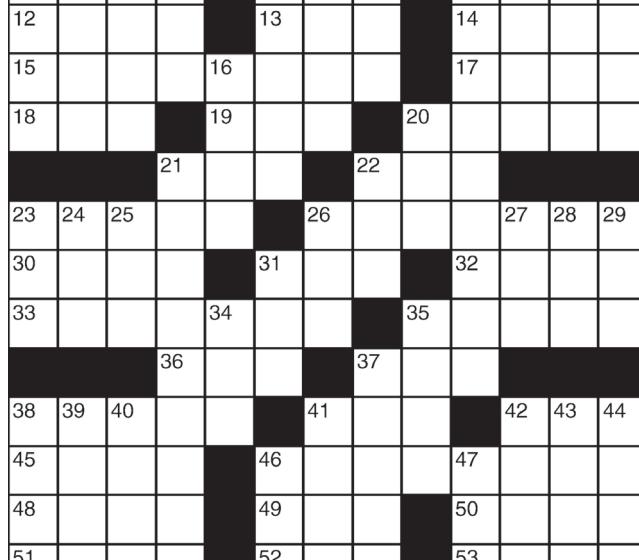
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	Y E A H F D A S E E

Yesterday's answer 3-26



THE BLOTTER

ARREST REPORTS

Sunday, March 24

Joshua Dean Weeks, of Wamego, was booked for stalking. Bond was set at \$2,500.

Fabian Ronnie Chavez, of El Paso, Texas, was booked for two counts of probation violation. Bond was set at \$2,250.

William Duane Henry, of the 2500 block of Farm Bureau Road, was booked for two counts of domestic battery and unlawful possession of hallucinogens. Bond was set at \$4,000.

**William Arthur Peter-
son**, of the 300 block of 16th Street, was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$750.

Jonathan Ray Watt, of the 400 block of Walters Drive, was booked for driving under the influence, habitual violation, reckless driving, no proof of liability insurance and not wearing a seat belt. Bond was set at \$5,000.

Shaun Wesley Moreland, of the 2100 block of Fort Riley Boulevard, was booked for aggravated assault. Bond was set at \$7,000.

Monday, March 25

Saul Casas Estrada, of Junction City, was booked for disorderly conduct and misdemeanor theft. Bond was set at \$1,500.

compiled by Katie Goerl

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

K-State defeats Illinois, Cats advance in WNIT

Nicolas Wahl
staff writer

Snow flurries were falling in the chilled air outside of Bramlage Coliseum Monday night, but K-State senior guard Brittany Chambers was a bit hotter, making it rain early for 21 first-half points as the K-State women's basketball team (17-17) won 57-48 over Illinois State (24-11) in the second round of the Women's NIT.

"[Chambers] is a great player. She is tough to stop," said Illinois State head coach Stephanie Glance.

Chambers was 8-of-15 from the field including 3-of-6 from 3-point range in the opening period, but did much of her damage in the early portion of the half from inside. A Chambers steal and run out layup followed by sophomore guard Haley Texada's third 3-pointer of the ballgame capped a 13-4 K-State run that turned a 6-6 tie into a 19-12 Wildcat lead with 9:02 remaining before halftime.

A 3-pointer by freshman guard Brianna Craig pushed the K-State lead to 12 at the 4:12 mark, before Chambers hit two straight threes and knocked in a mid-range leaner to give the Wildcats a 36-23 lead heading into halftime.

After the game, neither Chambers nor K-State head coach Deb Patterson had much to say about the first half. Both were more focused on the lack of production in a second half that saw the Wildcat offense get bogged down and allowed Illinois State to linger within striking distance.

"I thought we really struggled to be a team offensive power tonight," Patterson said.



Jacob Dean Wilson | Collegian

Senior guard Brittany Chambers fights past Illinois State senior guard Jamie Russell during K-State's 57-48 victory.

"We had little moments in the first half, but did not see much of it in the second half."

The Wildcats, who had seven assists against just four turnovers in the first half but shot just 13-of-36 from the field, went stagnant. They flipped their assist-to-turnover ratio, losing the ball eight times in the second half and managing just four assists on 22 percent field goal shooting.

Chambers, who had 28 points on the night, went cold herself in the second half. Illinois State adjustments on defense held her to just 2-of-7 shooting and forced her into four turnovers in the period.

In a game that often took on a rough-and-tumble nature, the undersized Wildcats man-

aged to do enough on the boards to get by. The Wildcats outrebounded ISU 45-35, including a 15-6 advantage on the offensive glass.

"Our offensive rebounding was really good," Chambers said. "It kept us in position to keep that lead."

Patterson noted a lack of ball movement as the culprit.

"It did look like we were in a rut," Patterson said. "It did look like physical play was putting us there, but I think that was more us than anything."

Illinois State managed to pull as close as 54-46 with 1:43 to play, but a 3-pointer from junior guard Chantay Caron with just 42 seconds remaining put the game away for good as K-State gutted out the win.

BASEBALL

Wildcats set to face Cornhuskers, old Big 12 foes, for first of 3 games

Sean Frye
staff writer

Tuesday marks the renewal of a former Big 12 Conference rivalry, as the K-State Wildcat baseball team (16-8) takes on the Nebraska Cornhuskers (8-14) at Tointon Family Stadium. This will mark the end of a massive 19-game home stand for the Wildcats before the team heads to Waco, Texas, this weekend to face the Baylor Bears.

The Wildcats have performed well during the 18-game stretch, earning 13 wins and just

five losses. The team is also red hot entering Tuesday's contest, as the Wildcats have won six of their last seven games.

The projected starters for Tuesday are senior Jake Doller (2-1) for the Wildcats and senior Tyler Niederklein (0-0) for the Cornhuskers. For K-State, the hot bat this year has been sophomore infielder Shane Conlon, who has a .375 batting average and four home runs on the year. His slugging percentage of .602 is also the best on the team.

As for the Cornhuskers, their biggest threat at the plate has been senior outfielder Chad

Christensen, who has a .366 batting average and is third on the team with 10 RBIs. He also leads the team in triples with two.

This game will be the first of three games between the Wildcats and the Cornhuskers this year. Next week, on April 2, the Cornhuskers make the trip back to Manhattan. Then on April 23, the Wildcats travel to Lincoln.

First pitch for Tuesday's game is set for 6:30 p.m. The temperature is projected to be in the low 40s with sunny skies and a zero-percent chance of precipitation.

Two-minute drill: Tiger Woods No. 1

Sean Frye
staff writer

PGA:

Tiger Woods has reclaimed the world's No. 1 ranking in golf after winning the Arnold Palmer Invitational on Sunday. He was last ranked No. 1 in October 2010, when he lost the ranking as a byproduct of the infamous sex scandal the previous winter. The next tournament for Woods will be the Mas-

ters Tournament, in which he will look to end his five-year drought from a major title.

NFL:

Carson Palmer is reportedly unwilling to restructure his contract with the Oakland Raiders after it was believed that he would do so, according to a Monday ESPN.com article. This forces the Raiders to make the decision to either release Palmer or pay

him \$13 million this season. Palmer has been unproductive in his time with the Raiders, only passing for 22 touchdowns compared to 14 interceptions last season.

Two-Minute Drill
See kstatecollegian.com for more updates on national sports news.

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Artist Fred Wilson: museum therapist

March 28 at 7 p.m.
Willard Hall, Room 114



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Race, Gender and Media

Racial and Ethnic Profiling in America

Relational Communication

Sex and Violence in the Media

Sociology of Educational Institutions

Sociology of the Death Penalty

World Regional Geography

August

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Commodity Futures

Communication in Baseball

Emerging Diseases

Leadership in Self and Society

Plan, Design and Build for Public Interest

Sketching with Spaceprints

Online Classes

Adolescent Substance Abuse

African American Women and Identity Formation

Becoming an Effective Parent

Conflict and Communication

Earth in Action

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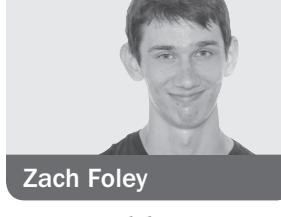
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Renovations essential for stability, students' legacy



Zach Foley

Structural damage is not a joke, and if you think it is, then you probably aren't very funny. Our Student Union is in dire need of renovations due to structural issues that include a roof that can be described as a bit sketchy. I can't speak for the entire student body, but I can say that I have no interest in being around to see the Union's roof collapse, or worse, watch the entire building crumble. These things might not

the building constructed. At the time, tuition was \$50 a semester. Those students were willing to pay 10 percent more as part of their tuition so that future students would be able to enjoy the Union.

The proposed increase for renovations would result in less than a half of a percent increase in overall tuition for us, which is a steal if you ask me.

The students who paid to have the Union built would probably wish they could have paid so little. To further put things into perspective, \$5 in 1938 is equal to just over \$80 today. Past students made a much bigger commitment in having the Union built for our enjoyment than we will make by restoring and ren-

ovating. "Big freakin' deal. I will be gone by the time the improvements are made to the Union." That is absolutely correct, but is also beside the point. This shouldn't be about instant gratification—it should be about the legacy that will be left behind by voting "yes."

Sometime down the road, when you are encouraging your children or grandchildren to attend K-State, you can tell them how you had a say in the hip and happening new Student Union. Unless, of course, you have no pride in our school and have no desire to see it bettered—in which case, why are you even here?

If you are interested in having a roof collapse on

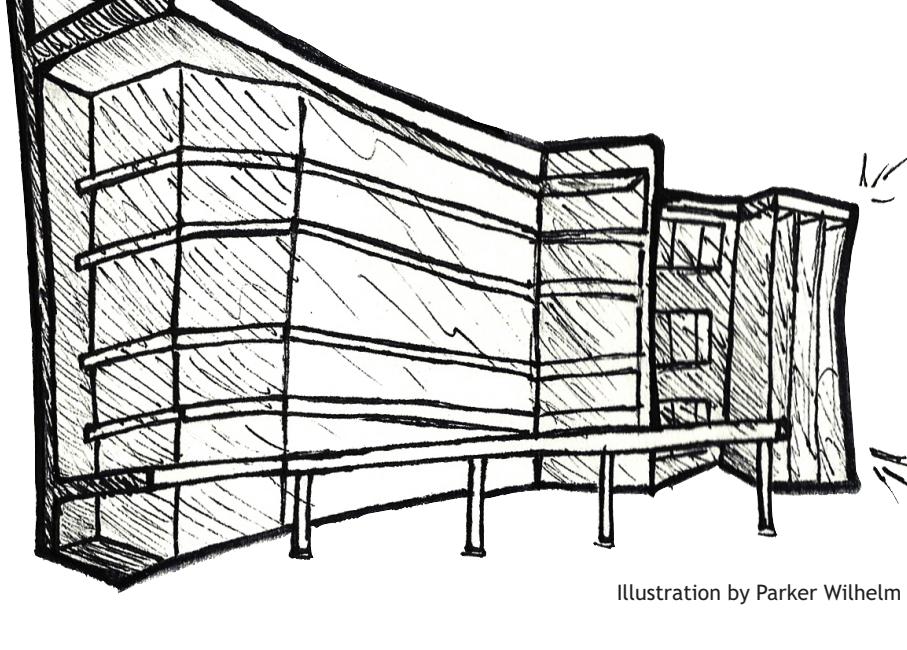


Illustration by Parker Wilhelm

happen in the immediate future, but if not attended to the Union will not be a place that anyone will want to hang out in or that we, as alumni, will care to come back to visit.

The simple solution to this problem is to vote in favor of the proposed Union renovations. By voting yes, students agree to a \$20-per-semester increase in privilege fees starting in the fall of 2014 to fund Union repair and renovations. Some might complain that this seems like a rather large increase, but it really is not when you consider the grand scheme of things.

In 1938, when the Union was originally approved to be built, students agreed to pay \$5 a semester to have

vating it for future Wildcats. As enrollment rates increase each year, the Union becomes less able to accommodate the greater numbers of incoming students. The expansions to the Union will make it more comfortable and will add to revenue streams, which will help the Union operate at a profit, or at the very least break even.

Future students will not have to deal with the Union's current financial burdens—it has operated in the red for nine of the last 10 years. We should make the Union experience better for incoming students in the same way that past students have for us.

Some of you reading this

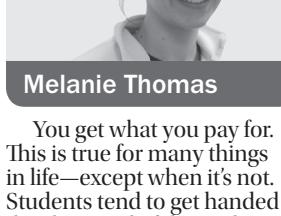
you, have no school pride, can't see that the increase to privilege fees is a steal or are selfishly concerned with only your own time at K-State. I encourage you to vote "no" to the Union renovations.

For those who take pride in being a Wildcat, think of coming back to campus down the line and enjoying the renovated Union. Don't focus on the fact that you will not be able to enjoy it during your time as a student.

Vote yes to securing the future of the Union. Vote yes to leaving your legacy.

Zach Foley is a freshman in education. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

University should charge students less for classes taught by GTAs



Melanie Thomas

You get what you pay for. This is true for many things in life—except when it's not. Students tend to get handed the short end of the stick in college, from the cost of textbooks to increased housing prices near universities.

Sadly, it's also often not true of the classes that undergraduate students take. A student would be hard pressed to make it through their undergraduate years without paying full price for a class that ends up being taught by a graduate teaching assistant as opposed to a professor.

Students sign up for a class that lists a professor's name, but by the time the beginning of the semester rolls around, they find that the name on their schedule has been changed to the name of a GTA.

Using GTAs instead of professors is an easy way for universities to save some serious cash. Instead of paying top-notch professors to teach undergraduate classes, universities can pay GTAs the bare minimum and still make the same amount of money from unsuspecting undergraduate students. Sadly enough, undergraduate students learn to see this as normal.

Not only do undergraduate students receive a lower-quality education than they should, but according to a Dec. 16, 2010, Economist article, GTAs enter into an endless cycle of what some have described as "slave labor," with low pay, long hours and uncertain opportunities on the other side of their experience.

At some universities, such as the University of Oregon's



Illustration by Chris Sanford

English department, the number of GTAs teaching lower division classes is actually higher than the number of full-time faculty. The was also true of Columbia University's essay composition classes in 2002 when, according to an April 30, 2002, New York Times article by Yili Zhao, the GTAs went on strike to gain the right to unionize and courses for more than 300 students were affected. What quality of education

can one really expect when so many undergraduate classes are taught by inexperienced GTAs?

Despite this, universities make no monetary distinction between GTA-taught classes and those taught by professors. Undergraduate students are forced to pay the same amount for GTA-taught classes as those that are taught by experienced and higher-paid professors, the cost of which is often quite high.

It is a good thing for graduate students to gain experience teaching, and there are certainly some classes, such as introductory freshman writing classes, that do not need to be taught by a full-time professor. However, it doesn't make sense to be forced to pay the full-price tuition one would normally pay for a tenured professor's instruction when the class is being taught by a graduate student with only a few years' more experience

than the students sitting in the classroom.

There is certainly a place for GTA-taught classes, and they can be advantageous to the university and to the graduate students who teach them. However, they should be advantageous to undergraduate students as well. If the university is going to pay GTAs so much less than tenured professors, the university should give some of that money back to students by having discounted

rates for GTA-taught classes.

By lowering the rates for GTA-taught classes, the university can still save by not hiring as many tenured professors, graduate students can still gain experience and undergraduate students can pay for what they're actually going to receive.

Melanie Thomas is a senior in print journalism. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

Union improvements not worth high cost to students



Jeana Lawrence

Yesterday, the Student Governing Association announced its plans for the renovation and remodeling of the K-State Student Union. For years, it seems, people have talked about updating the Union, and now it is finally happening. The SGA seemingly makes some compelling arguments. We would have larger study and meeting room areas, a larger food court section and an impressive exterior. But will it be worth an extra \$20 on top of an already rising tuition bill? Not really.

Why not? Sure, \$20 doesn't seem that bad. That's my average Wal-Mart run. It's been calculated as representing about half a percent of tuition. But think on this: you don't just pay \$20 once. You keep paying every semester you're here. Tuition bills are already getting more and more expensive and some of the changes proposed are things we could probably live without.

For example, the new exterior. It looks really nice, I'll give you that, and it might help persuade some students to come to K-State. But you know what? How nice the Student Union looked wasn't my deciding factor in coming to K-State. My deciding factor was the family feeling you get here, which is a result of the people involved in K-State, not the Union. It might be nice to show relatives your shiny new Union, but that's not going to be the reason that you pick K-State.

Plus, we wouldn't get use of the new Union if they approved the plan. It will take years to rebuild the Union. How will students cope when they want a nice quiet lunch but there's drilling or hammering going on instead? We also don't know how much of the Union will be under construction and how much of the Union students will be able to access during the renovation. They say that students will have more space for studying, but that will be far in the future when most of us have grad-

uated. It might be nice to come back as alumni and marvel at what your \$20-per-semester fee bought, but you won't be studying there. You won't be having club meetings there. You'll just get to look at it.

Honestly, the best way to get the most out of our money and still be able to use the Union in our college career is to simply fix the structural damage without expanding. That will most likely take less time and less money.

As for all the new space, I don't often see the Union filled to capacity. I mostly see

the student body as much. We don't need expensive, complicated plans in order to improve. We're in desperate financial times and need to be smart about how we spend our money. Plus, we would be able to enjoy the changes while we're here instead of waiting years for it to be finished.

In the long run, it's not worth it. Yes, we should probably fix the Union, but not at these exorbitant rates. Tuition is on the rise, and who knows how high it will be next year or the year after that. Some students might not be



Illustration by Aaron Logan

able to afford it and will have to

drop out, go somewhere else or take on more student debt—all for something that they won't even get to enjoy while at K-State. We should just fix the problems we have now and add more study tables—a much less expensive and time-consuming plan.

Jeana Lawrence is a sophomore in English and journalism and mass communications. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

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page 5

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Behind the scenes in Bramlage: Part 3, staff takes over after game

Joe Swain
contributing writer

In the final installment of a three-part series, the Collegian takes you behind the scenes of a typical game day at Bramlage Coliseum. The story features the events staff during the Feb. 25 win over Texas Tech. At 7:18 p.m., when this installment begins, the game is already underway. To read parts one and two, visit the Collegian website, kstatecollegian.com.

7:18 p.m.

Supervisors begin to reach out to Adrian Esquelin, lead patrons supervisor at Bramlage and sophomore in open option, about additional event staff wanting to go home. Seeing no need to keep them, Esquelin allows them to leave.

7:46 p.m.

The floor staff begins to set up barriers between the floor and the stands in preparation for fan exit. This is done for the safety of those on the floor. With two minutes left in the game, the ushers make their way to the game floor. Safety is a top priority at this point.

7:50 p.m.

Esquelin, standing at the top of Section 26, contacts staff supervisors via radio.

"There is no meeting tonight," Esquelin tells them. "Does anyone have an incident report at this time?"

No one radios back with an incident report.

7:51 p.m.

Floor security is responsible for setting up a quiet zone outside the area for the postgame press conferences. While they are setting this up, one staff member will oversee the area that has been cordoned off for fans who want to leave the game early.

8:02 p.m.

All staff members on the floor are informed to stay at their current positions. This is done as K-State's head basketball coach Bruce Weber is on the postgame coach's show for radio and television. This typically lasts 10 minutes.

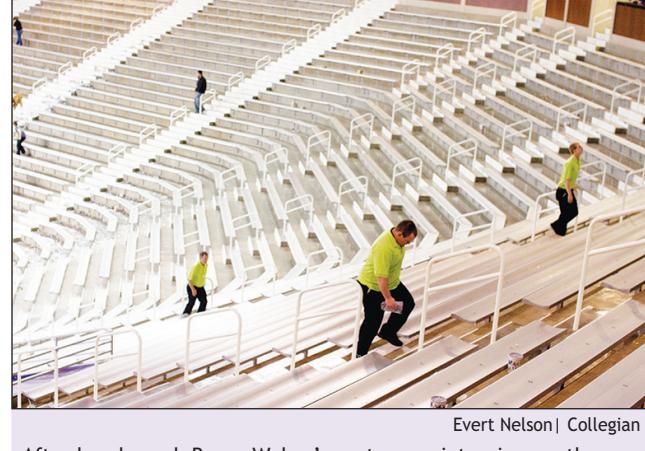
8:13 p.m.

Custodial staff begins cleaning the arena. They will spend the next three to four hours cleaning, making Bramlage presentable for the next event. More staff is released for the night. Aaron Swofford, floor security lead and sophomore in secondary education, makes the announcement that Texas Tech is now in a press conference.



Evert Nelson | Collegian

Following the game at Bramlage Coliseum, Adrian Esquelin waits for head coach Bruce Weber to finish up an interview on the court of Bramlage Coliseum, green shirt staff are released for the night and file up the bleachers into the main office.



Evert Nelson | Collegian

After head coach Bruce Weber's post-game interview on the court of Bramlage Coliseum, green shirt staff are released for the night and file up the bleachers into the main office.



Evert Nelson | Collegian

While watching the final videos being played on the jumbotron, Adrian Esquelin waits for patrons to leave after the Feb. 25 Texas Tech basketball game. Esquelin attempts to ensure that visitors to Bramlage don't walk across the court floor in the exit process.



Evert Nelson | Collegian

While speaking with R.J. Bokelman, director of facilities at Bramlage, Adrian Esquelin goes over staff schedules for an upcoming high school basketball tournament to be hosted at Bramlage Coliseum. Esquelin has been contacting staff throughout the night to schedule positions.



Evert Nelson | Collegian

Coat racks labeled for the different staffs await to be filled as Bramlage staff take off their green shirts and throw them into laundry bags. Following their shifts, the mass of recently released staff is in the process of signing out before leaving Bramlage Coliseum for the night.

8:20 p.m.

Esquelin walks out to Section 26, notices most fans have left and releases the rest of the staff on the floor. He makes a final walk through the fairly empty concourse. The only activity taking place comes from custodians making their way around emptying the trash cans. Concessions are closed, but the faint smell of popcorn still lingers.

8:27 p.m.

The K-State press conference begins. More supervisors make their way to the conference room for a supervisor briefing.

8:30 p.m.

Esquelin, standing at the front of the room, commands everyone on a job well done. He hands out evaluation forms to the supervisors.

8:47 p.m.

The K-State press conference concludes. Swofford begins the process of clearing the area near the press conference and makes his way to the office area.

9:02 p.m.

Esquelin consults with a supervisor on the staffing needs for an upcoming high school basketball tournament. At this point, Esquelin looks at his watch and breathes a sigh of relief. His day is over. He has been at Bramlage for close to 7 hours. Except for a 20-minute break, he has been standing, walking and keeping an eye on staff and patrons the entire time.

9:06 p.m.

The game is in the books, an easy 20-point victory for the Wildcats. Esquelin pulls the radio earpiece from his ear and turns down the corridor toward the office. He has paperwork and time sheets to review.

9:07 p.m.

Esquelin waves goodbye to everyone. He shows no signs of fatigue or exhilaration. He walks down the long corridor from the offices to the concourse as he pulls out his phone and checks messages. He stops at the long hallway and looks both ways as if he is trying to get a sense of where he is.

He enters the concourse and heads toward the southeast exit doors. He looks outside and sees no sign of the anticipated snowstorm. A look of relief appears across his face. He opens the door and leaves, another hard day's night at Bramlage under his belt.

UNION | Priorities to include more space for retail, clubs

Continued from page 1

a time.

"What we're going to do is localize the construction and keep the building open, doing the renovation in phases," Smriga said. "It's challenging to do it that way, but it's also a typical plan."

Starting from the bottom, the Union's ground floor courtyard area will be remodeled, which was something that students had asked for directly.

"Several priorities emerged from surveys taken by interest groups among campus," Smriga said. "A priority was to make the Union actually feel like a place to hang out. We want to upgrade the recreation area, and make it more inviting to students. The courtyard will take on a new appearance. Right now it's a bit of a cold, dark place. We want to make the space a bit warmer."

Follett, the new bookstore company that K-State will use in the Union instead of Varney's, will likely restructure how the current bookstore looks, Smriga said.

Student input was an integral aspect of the suggestions given to architects for Union remodeling, and another main priority was space for student organizations.

"There was a need for increased student organization space. The Union severely lacks organization space," Smriga said. "The groups that are housed in the Union are scattered throughout the building; they're all over. They need to be relocated to one area to work together and make them easier to find. It makes sense to consolidate student organizations in one place."

Plans are in the works to put all student organization offices, from multicultural affairs to the radio station, in the same area on the ground floor. This would allow the spaces on the Union first floor to be open to retail, helping to pay for the cost of the initiative.

While retail remains an important part of Union income, it is not as important as the students, according to Smriga.

"We're not funded by the university or the state. Our largest source of income is student fees, which makes up 20-25 percent of our revenue," Smriga said.

Even though the cost to students for the Union renovation is set at \$20

next semester and for subsequent semesters until the project is completed, should the referendum pass that cost could go down if K-State friends and supporters decide to chip in.

"Companies that partner with the Union and alumni can donate, which would cut the costs for students," said Brett Seidl, co-chair of the Your Union campaign and junior in journalism and mass communications. "It would take no more than 30 years to pay off the bonds."

Students would see the main result of their money on the Union's first floor, which houses the food court area, Caribou Coffee and Cat's Den convenience store.

"It's hard to think about what won't change," Smriga said. "The food service area is stretched to the max during lunch times, and it's really an old model. This sort of mall food court style of serving isn't the most attractive set up."

Fixing that problem means changing the entire layout of the first floor.

The food area would have a completely different look after renovations," Smriga said. "There will likely be new food options, but we will always look for options that interest students, and we'll keep students in the decision-making process for that."

The Union's second and third floors will feature an expansion of the administration and business offices and a more consolidated space for the Union Program Council, The Grand Ballroom and Big 12 Room will both be renovated and made more aesthetically pleasing, another aspect considered important by students and staff.

"The Union renovations will help with increasing our enrollment," said Emilie Patterson, secretary of the Union Corporation Board and senior in food science and industry. "Students will see the time and energy we've put into making K-State look great. We take pride in what our campus looks like."

As far as a time scale, it may be a while before students can reap the benefits. Even so, the referendum is still up to a vote. Students will be able to vote on the Union renovations on April 10 and 11.

"Of course, even choosing an architect and design plan could take six to nine months," Smriga said. "I most look forward to the final result and the excitement that will be generated from that final project."

CIG | Pending ban allows for smoking areas

Continued from page 1

rent smoking policy as well as compromising for both sides of the smoking ban issue is important," said Nate Spriggs, student body president and senior in agricultural economics. "I support the option of smoking areas. This way, there will be a good balance between smokers and nonsmokers on campus."

Many smokers believe this proposed policy to be a good idea.

"I believe creating smoking areas is a good thing," said Liz Smith, junior in hotel and restaurant management.

agement. "While I do smoke, I also respect people [who don't]. You do not know if people are allergic or have certain health issues concerned strictly with smoking. I also try not to smoke on campus because I know the dangers it may cause."

Were the proposal to be approved, first by the Student Senate and then by the Faculty Senate, the committee on policies and procedures will review the measure and send it to K-State President Kirk Schulz. If Schulz approves the mea-

sure, he will sign it into effect. Even if the policy passes through all the committees, it will not be implemented for another year.

"Fewer and fewer college students are smoking these days, but compromising and allowing smokers to smoke in designated areas creates a happy medium for all students," Nuss said.

Editor's Note: This article was completed as an assignment for a class in the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

CITY | Commission, SGA meetings a must

Continued from page 1

tion also came up during the forum. Schooley believes that a better, more effective system of public transportation should be implemented in Manhattan and onto campus. If we have a City Commission that is really focused on the needs of half the population, then we could put a lot of effort into a transportation-friendly environment."

Finally, the issue of communication between the SGA and the City Commission is on the minds of both candidates and K-State students.

According to Jankovich, employing more frequent channels of communication between the two governing bodies is crucial.

"We have to be mindful of what the needs are of the students," Jankovich said. "I don't know that we've had a whole lot of direct contact with [the SGA]. To be honest, I think that's a void that hasn't been filled, and I would like to see that grow a little bit. I want to try and sit down with the student government and visit them on a periodic basis."

Schooley agreed on this point.

"I think that a regular meeting between the City Commission and the SGA leadership would do a lot," he said.



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